Three Caverns "Heart" Route
Dark Star Corridor
IT'S PITCH BLACK~ AND I CAN'T HEAR A THING~
WHERE IS EVERYBODY~!?

Memory:75
OOOH. I'VE GOTTA CALM DOWN. I'VE GOTTA CALM DOWN ...
IS THIS... THE TRIAL HERE?
RIGHT AFTER WE ENTERED, SOMEBODY PULLED OUR HANDS APART.

XUE-SAN AND CORONA-SAN MUST BE HAVING TROUBLE TOO...
...I REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO USE THIS, BUT... IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE...
WISH THAT MOVES HEAVEN AND EARTH...
GO LOOK FOR EVERYONE!

Memory;75

[Tao Raikaku]

WHAT IS THIS? A THREAD?
HIEH!?
THIS ONE'S CORONA-SAN AND THIS ONE'S XUE-SAN... WALK THIS WAY CAREFULLY...
...? SOMETHING'S TUGGING AT ME?
IT LOOKS LIKE A THREAD, BUT... COULD THIS BE XUE-SAN OR TAO-SAN'S MAGIC?
Let's go first of all.

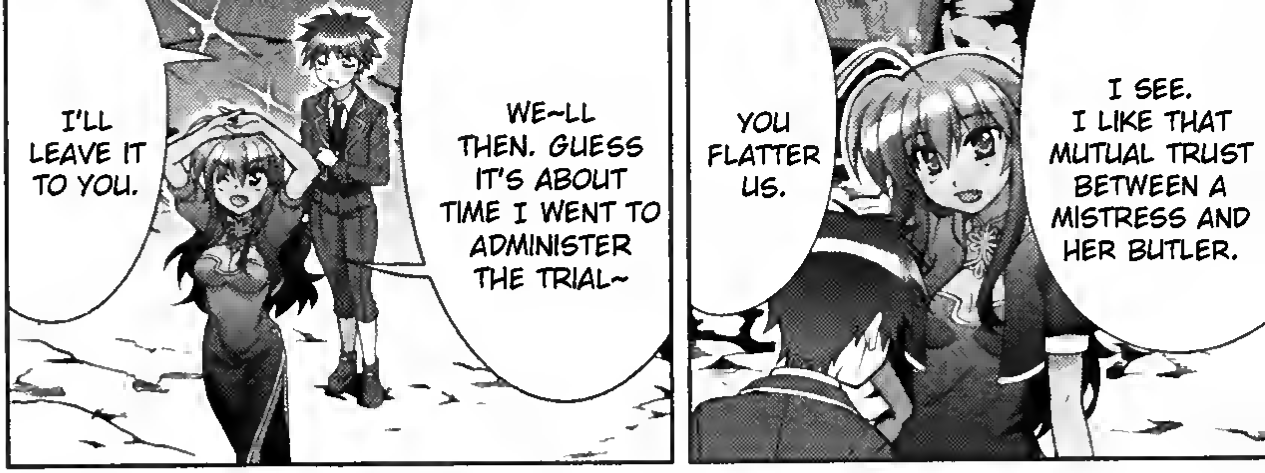
IT'S HER "SPECIAL ABILITY", BUT... A LOT HAPPENED AND SHE CAME TO HATE IT.

TAO-SAN... WHAT IS THAT SHE'S DOING?

FOR A LONG TIME, BOTH IRENE AND I HAVE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP HER.

OF COURSE. WHEN IT COMES TO HELPING PEOPLE AND LISTENING TO OTHER'S PROBLEMS, I'M CERTAIN MISTRESS CORONA WILL GIVE HER FULL SUPPORT.

SO I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THIS TRIAL IS FOR TAO'S SAKE... AND I WAS HOPING CORONA-CHAN COULD LEND US A HAND WITH IT.

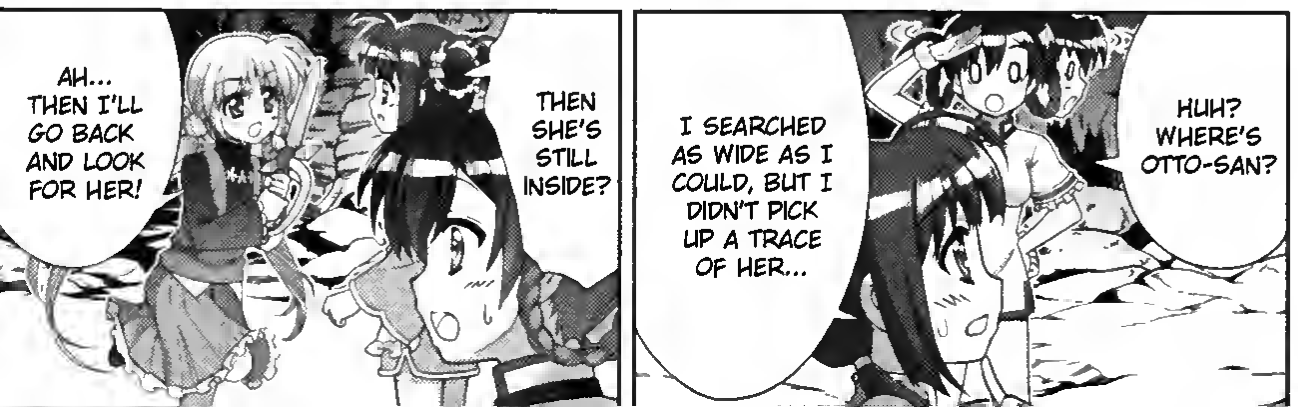

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.
WE~LL THEN. GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME I WENT TO ADMINISTER THE TRIAL~
YOU FLATTER US.
I SEE. I LIKE THAT MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN A MISTRESS AND HER BUTLER.

NO, I'LL... PASS.
CARE TO GIVE IT A GO, OTTO-KUN? THIS TRANS-FORMATION MAKE-UP IS REALLY FUN~
AND SO THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE ME, IT'S TIME FOR A BEAUTIFUL DISGUISE

Dark Star Corridor Exit

GO~AL!

IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, TAO-SAN~
THANK GOODNESS... SOMEHOW WE MADE IT OUT SAFELY.
UOOH! EVEN IN THE DARK IT'S A SIGHT FOR SOR EYES~!


AH... THEN I'LL GO BACK AND LOOK FOR HER!
THEN SHE'S STILL INSIDE?
I SEARCHED AS WIDE AS I COULD, BUT I DIDN'T PICK UP A TRACE OF HER...
HUH? WHERE'S OTTO-SAN?

IT'S POSSIBLE SHE REACHED THE EXIT BEFORE WE DID.
REALLY?
AH, NO... I DON'T THINK SHE'S STILL INSIDE. I SEARCHED EVERYWHERE.
FOR NOW, I'LL GO SEARCH ONE MORE TIME!
THOSE STRING THINGS WERE LEADING US, RIGHT?
BY THE WAY, HOW DID YOU FIND US TAO?
AH!
AH...
ER, UM, THAT IS... HOW DO I PUT THIS...?

TAO'S ALWAYS BEEN A REAL MYSTERIOUS GIRL~
YEAH, I DON'T REALLY GET IT EITHER.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH TAO-SAN ...?
I SEE...
IT SEEMS LIKE SHE CAME FROM ANOTHER MARTIAL ARTS DOJO BEFORE, BUT FOR SOME REASON SHE WAS ENTRUSTED TO OUR HEAD INSTRUCTOR.
YOU'LL BE FINE, CORONA-CHAN~! TAO'S REALLY NICE ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW HER~
I REALLY HOPE WE CAN BECOME FRIENDS TOO~
WHATEVER HAPPENED, WE'RE ALL FRIENDS NOW!

KYAAAH!
TAO-SAN!?
SO YOU MANAGED TO MAKE IT OUT OF THE DARK STAR CORRIDOR.
I'LL BE HANDLING YOUR NEXT TRIAL.
This is my disguise~

HIEEH!?
XUE-SAN!?

NO, DID OTTO-SAN ALSO...
AND JUST LIKE THAT, I HAVE YOUR LITTLE FRIEND.
HM... I WONDER.
NOW, IF YOU WANT YOUR FRIEND BACK... AND TO PASS THE TRIAL OF THE "HEART"
Ah...
.....!

THEN THE TWO OF YOU WILL HAVE TO FIGHT EACH OTHER.

NO WAY...

IF YOU SHOW ME A SATISFYING MATCH, THEN ALL WILL BE WELL. IF NOT...

USING THOSE, YOU WON'T BE INJURED LIKE YOU WOULD NORMALLY. SO DON'T HESITATE TO GO ALL OUT.

USE THESE. A SET OF DEFENSIVE GEAR.
ポイッ
ポイッ

BUT...
FIGHT WITH ALL THE POWER AND TECHNIQUES AT YOUR DISPOSAL.
ESPECIALLY YOU, TAO RAIKAKU. MAKE SURE YOU HOLD NOTHING BACK.
GO AHEAD.
UM... CAN I ASK A QUESTION?
THAT'S RIGHT... ACTUALLY
THEN ASKING US TO PUT ON "A GOOD MATCH" MEANS THAT TAO-SAN'S AND MY ABILITIES ARE PRETTY CLOSE, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT. AT IT'S CORE, IT'S A "TRIAL".
ASSUMING THE POINT OF THIS ISN'T TO CAUSE TROUBLE OR PICK ON US...

THAT'S NOT TRUE! NOT TRUE AT ALL! SHE'S MAKING IT ALL UP!
TAO MIGHT ACTUALLY BE STRONGER THAN YOU.
Ooh...
BUT... UM... I CAN'T...
ぶんぶん
ぶんぶん
YOU'RE STRONG, AREN'T YOU? WHEN YOU USE YOUR "TRUE POWER".
CORONA-SAN ...!

LET'S DO IT, TAO-SAN!

IF THIS WAS A THREAT OR COERCION, I WOULD DEFINITELY OPPOSE IT...
I... I'M SURE I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO DO THAT...
BUT IF IT'S A TRIAL I'VE BEEN GIVEN TO BECOME STRONGER, I HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO OVERCOME IT!
wristlet form
TAKE YOUR STANCES YOU TWO. WE'RE STARTING.

READY? LET THE MATCH...

BEGIN!

BOTH CORONA AND TAO ARE REALLY GOOD~!
YEAH.
I HAVE TO END THIS QUICKLY...! I'LL WAIT FOR CORONA-SAN TO MAKE A BIG SWING AND THEN...

THERE! I'LL COUNTER THIS PUNCH AND...!
A FEINT!?

NO
NO...!

!?
CRASH EMULATE
LACERATIONS AND A NUMBER OF
MODERATE BLOWS TO ARMS
AND BODY

THIS...

A WHIP!?
NO, IT WAS
SOMETHING
THINNER,
SHARPER!

HER HAIR...!?
THIS IS WHY I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE A MARTIAL ARTIST...
HUH? SHE'S CONTROLLING HER HAIR!?
YES.

WHOA...!

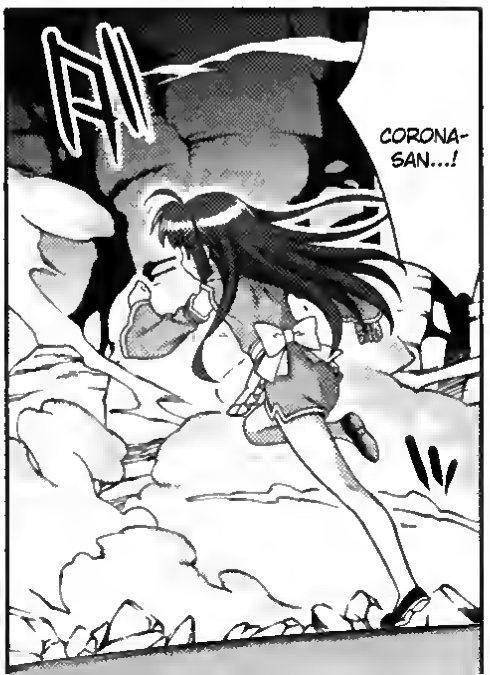
Tact form
UNFOR-TUNATELY WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH!
PLEASE DON'T COME NEAR ME...! IF YOU STAY AWAY THIS HAIR WON'T ATTACK YOU...
MEIST ARM!
YOU CAN'T...! IF YOU ATTACK ME...!

HEEH
!?

TSUKIGAMI
- SEVER

THAT'S TAO'S...
TAO'S HAD IT SINCE SHE WAS BORN. SHE CALLS IT A "CURSE", BUT... THAT'S NOT WHAT I THINK.
APPARENTLY IT'S AN ABILITY THAT TURNS ONE'S HAIR INTO A WEAPON "TSUKIGAMI".

STOP, TAO-SAN!


CORONA-SAN...!

THE MATCH IS STILL GOING.
AND I THINK CORONA-CHAN'S JUST THE PERSON TO PROVE IT... MASTER NOVE GUARANTEED IT.

VIVID CHAPTER 75 CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: KINSEI
RAW SCANNER: CRAZY HAT
CLEANERS: CRAZY HAT, EREBEA
PROOFREADERS: KIRA WING, CTHULHUDPC
TYPESETTER: ICE
QUALITY CHECKER: SETSUNA F. SEIEI
PROJECT LEADER: PRIMESONIC
SAINT KING: SATSUKI TAKAHASHI

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